

**EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL563155055US**

**CLAIMS**

1 1. A method for tracking printed articles, the method comprising the steps of:  
2 reading input indicating that a first carrier is being mounted to take up printed  
3 articles;  
4 reading in an ID of the first carrier;  
5 making a record associating the printed articles with the first carrier.

1 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of reading in an ID of the first  
2 carrier comprises the sub-step of:  
3 reading a bar code of the first carrier.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of reading in a code indicating that a carrier  
2 is being mounted comprises the sub-step of:  
3 reading a bar code indicating mounting of a carrier.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of reading input indicating that the first  
2 carrier is being mounted comprises the sub-step of:  
3 reading input indicating that a spool is being mounted to take up a web including  
4 printed articles.

1 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the steps of:  
2 reading input indicating that the spool is being mounted to supply the web to a web  
3 fed line.



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1 10. A computer readable medium containing programming instructions for tracking  
2 printed articles as they are generated and transferred from a first carrier to a second carrier  
3 in the course being produced, the computer readable medium including programing  
4 instructions for:

5 reading input indicating that a first carrier is being mounted to take up printed  
6 articles;

7 reading and ID of a first carrier ID; and

8 making a record associating the printed articles with the first carrier.

1 11. The computer readable medium according to claim 10 further including  
2 programming instruction for:

3 reading input indicating that the first carrier is being mounted to supply the printed  
4 articles, and

5 reading in the first carrier ID.

1 12. The computer readable medium according to claim 11 further including  
2 programming instruction for:

3 reading in input indicating that a second carrier is being mounted to received the  
4 printed articles; and

5 making a record associating the printed articles with the second carrier.

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1 13. A system for producing custom printed articles comprising:  
2 a printer;  
3 a computer system electrically coupled to the printer the information processing  
4 system including:  
5 means for receiving information indicating that a spool is being mounted to  
6 take up a web of printed articles output by the printer; and  
7 means for receiving information identifying the spool.

1 14. The system according to claim 13 wherein the means for receiving information  
2 indicating that a spool is being mounted includes:  
3 a bar code reader.

1 15. The system according to claim 13 wherein the means for receiving information  
2 identifying the spool includes:  
3 a bar code reader.

1 16. The system according to claim 13 wherein the means for receiving information  
2 indicating that a spool is being mounted includes:  
3 a client computer.

1 17. The system according to claim 13 wherein the means for receiving information  
2 identifying the spool includes:  
3 a client computer.

1 18. The system according to claim 13 further comprising:  
2 means for making a record associating the printed articles with the spool.

1 19. The system according to claim 13 further comprising:  
2 a slitter for slitting the web into a plurality of sub webs.



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